

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR BROWN RECOGNIZES INFLUENTIAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS AT ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Buffalo, NY – Mayor Byron W. Brown today recognized local African-Americans who have made significant contributions to their community as part of Black History Month festivities. The noon time event, rescheduled from last week due to severe weather, was held in the lobby of City Hall where Mayor Brown hosted friends, family members and colleagues of the honorees. Mayor Brown also delivered a proclamation, noting this year's Black History Month theme as "African Americans and the Vote".

"African Americans have had a particularly unique experience with voting throughout the history of this City and country. Many brave Americans marched, protested, were arrested and even died working toward voting equality," Mayor Brown said. "Today, it remains critically important that all Americans exercise their voting rights at every level of government, especially in the African American communities."

The event recognized African-Americans in seven categories for their outstanding community service.

THE HONOREES WERE:

- Art Will Holton, Saxophonist
- Education Dr Kriner Cash, Superintendent of Buffalo Public Schools
- Youth Natosha Cummings-Price, ECC Head Woman's Basketball Coach
- · Military & Law Enforcement Lt. Kelly Craig, Buffalo Police Dept. and US Army Civil Affairs Officer
- Faith-based Pastor Dwayne Jones, Mt. Aaron Baptist Church
- Community Service "Mamma" Charlene Miller-Caver
- Health Care Dr. Breeann Wilson, Podiatrist at Pure Podiatry

The event also featured a music solo by a local musician, Vallana M. Harris. Shannon Smith, a News Reporter at WIVB-TV, was the Mistress of Ceremonies for the event.

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